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Office of University
Communications

March 13, 2019

Event Raises Money to Present Art Programs in Schools

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Students in Professor Doug Knotts’ ceramics classes gained practice recently while throwing and making pottery for the Cleveland County Arts Council in Shelby, N.C. The students made 100 bowls for the Arts Council’s recent fundraiser, known as “Bowling for Dollars.”

The lunchtime benefit is held each year during the “Treasures of the Earth Pottery Show.” Potters in the show also donate bowls for the event. Attendees are served soup in a bowl they choose. After the meal, the bowl is theirs to keep.

“We’ve contributed 100 bowls for the last six years,” said Knotts, who is also the chair of the GWU Department of Visual Arts and assistant gallery director. “It’s a class project and everyone—from beginners to advanced students—contributes.”

The pottery made by GWU students helps the Cleveland County Arts Council sponsor art programs in local schools. “I think it is a worthwhile project for artists to have some contact with kids in elementary through high school,” Knotts affirmed.

The Arts Council also supports artists in a variety of ways and helping with the fundraiser is a way to give back to the non-profit organization, Knotts observed.

Senior Leah Jancic, of Cleveland, N.C., an arts major with a concentration in ceramics, has made many bowls for the event and even had some in the show. “I like to make things that you can use,” she related. “Our assignment was to make 10 that looked the same.”



Replicating pottery takes hours of practice, added Savannah Stringer of Belmont, N.C. She's a senior photography major who took her first pottery class last year. "Practice can help with trying to replicate," she noted. "When you are first starting out, you are learning how to throw and how to center and do something simple. Once you learn how to do a bowl, it all builds from there."

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